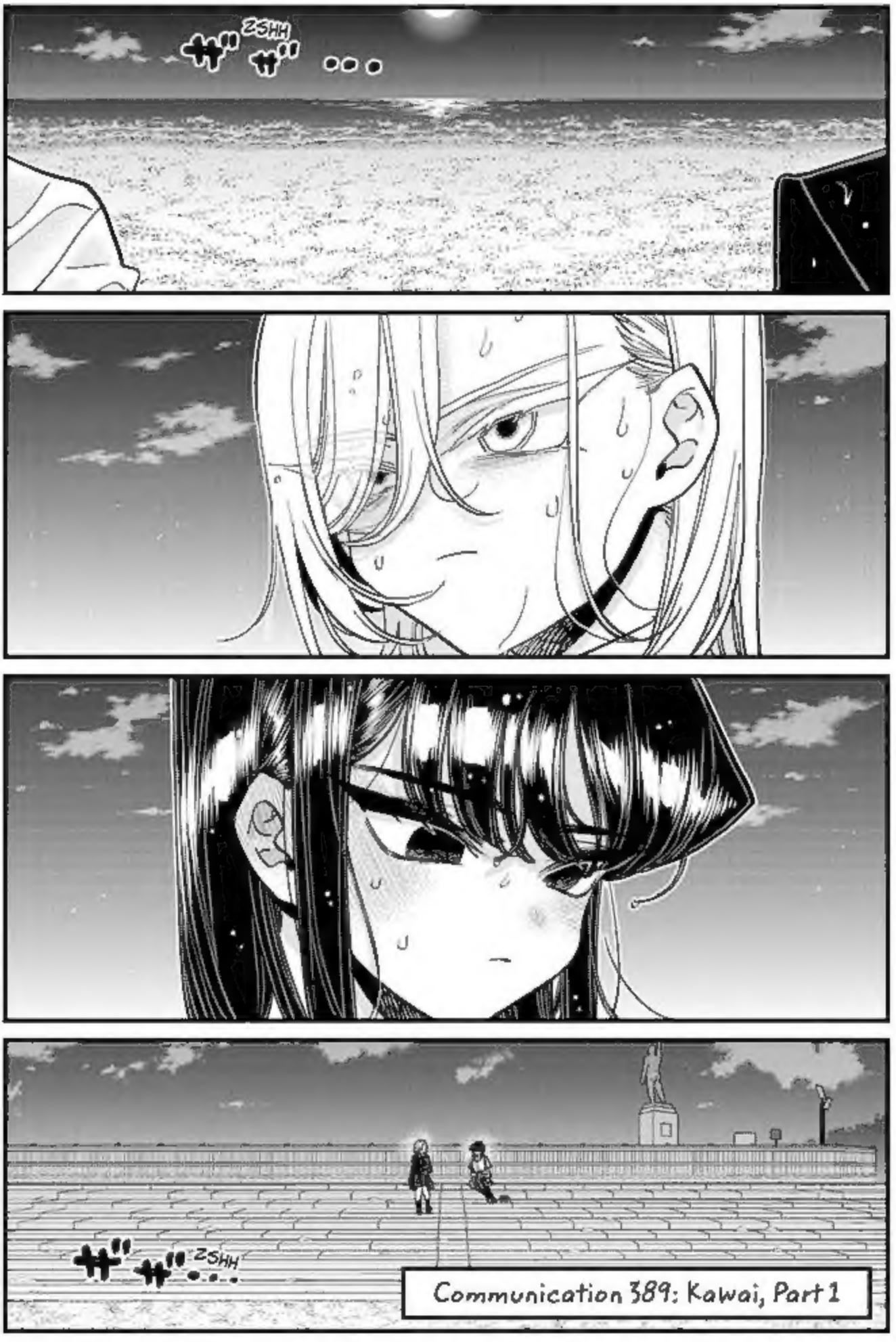
Komi Can't Communicate

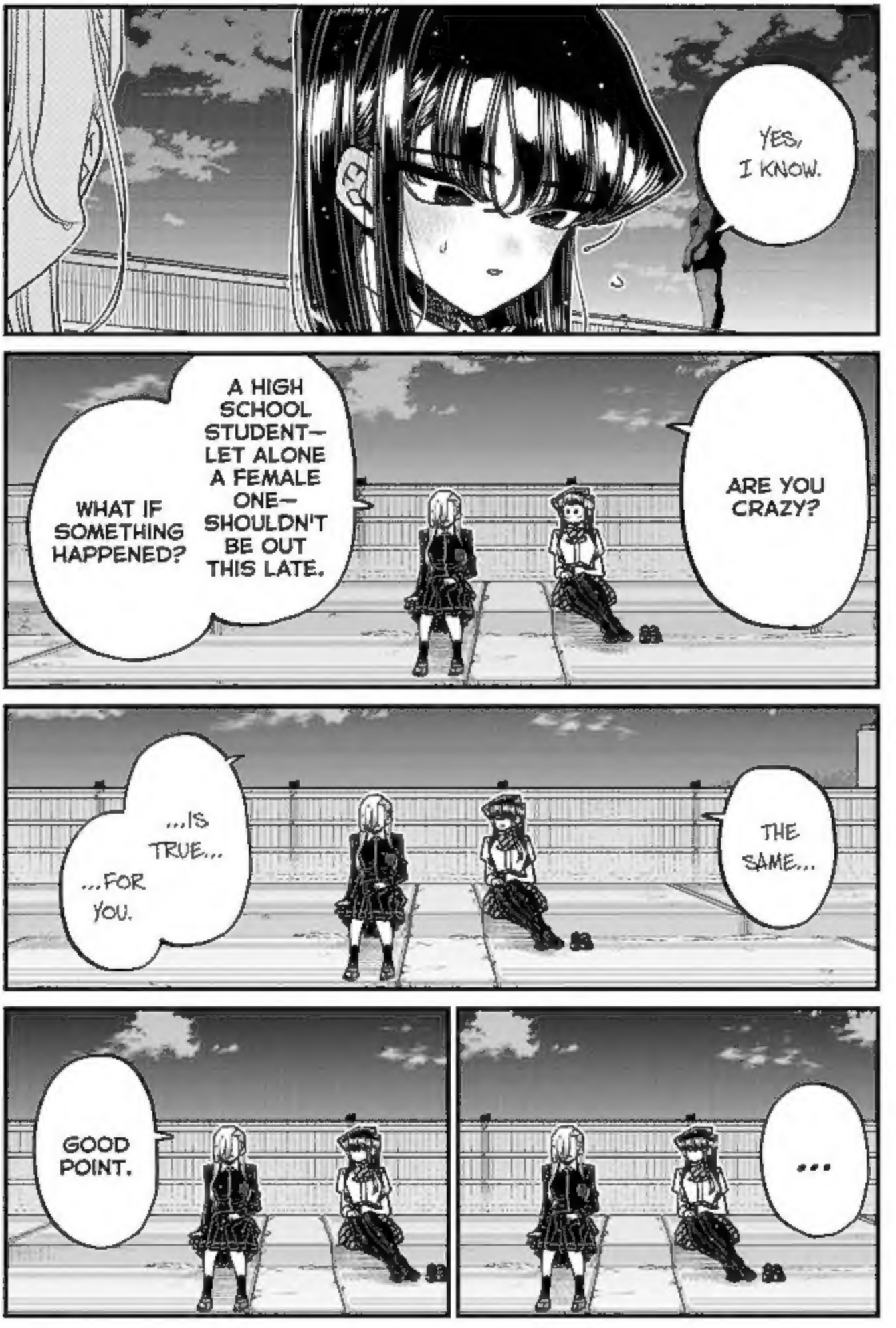


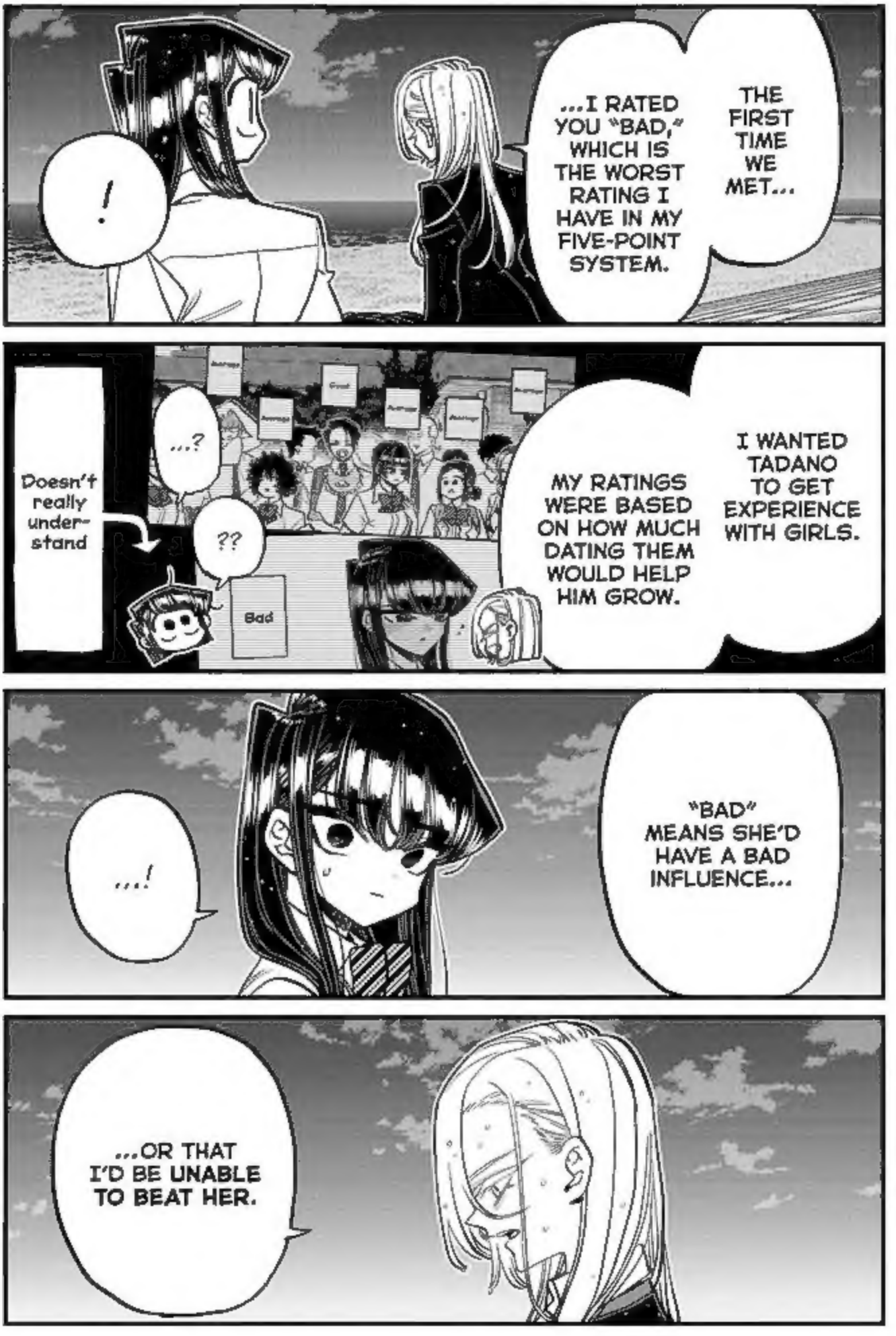
Story and art by Tomohito Oda

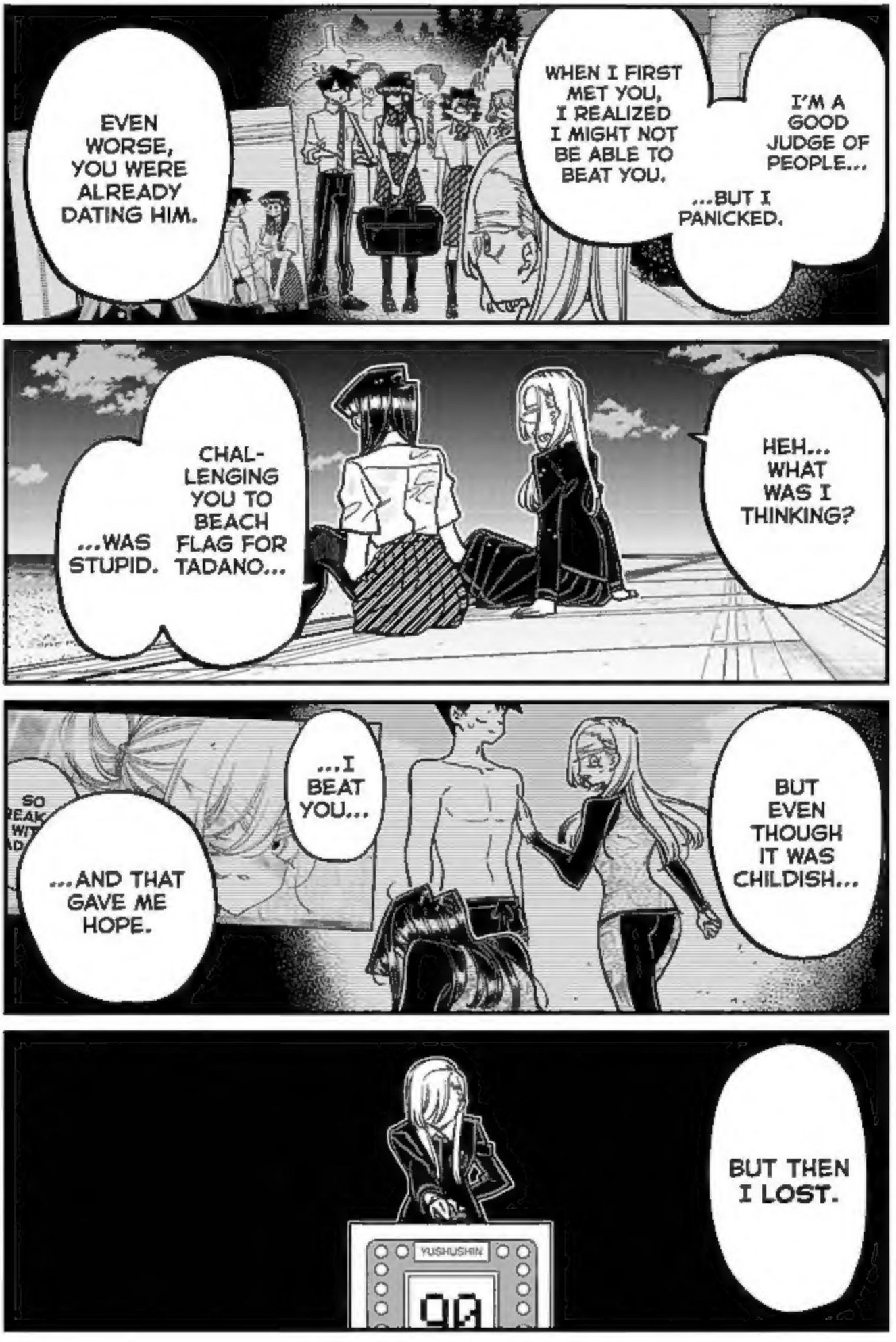
Translation: John Werry Lettering: Kyla Aiko

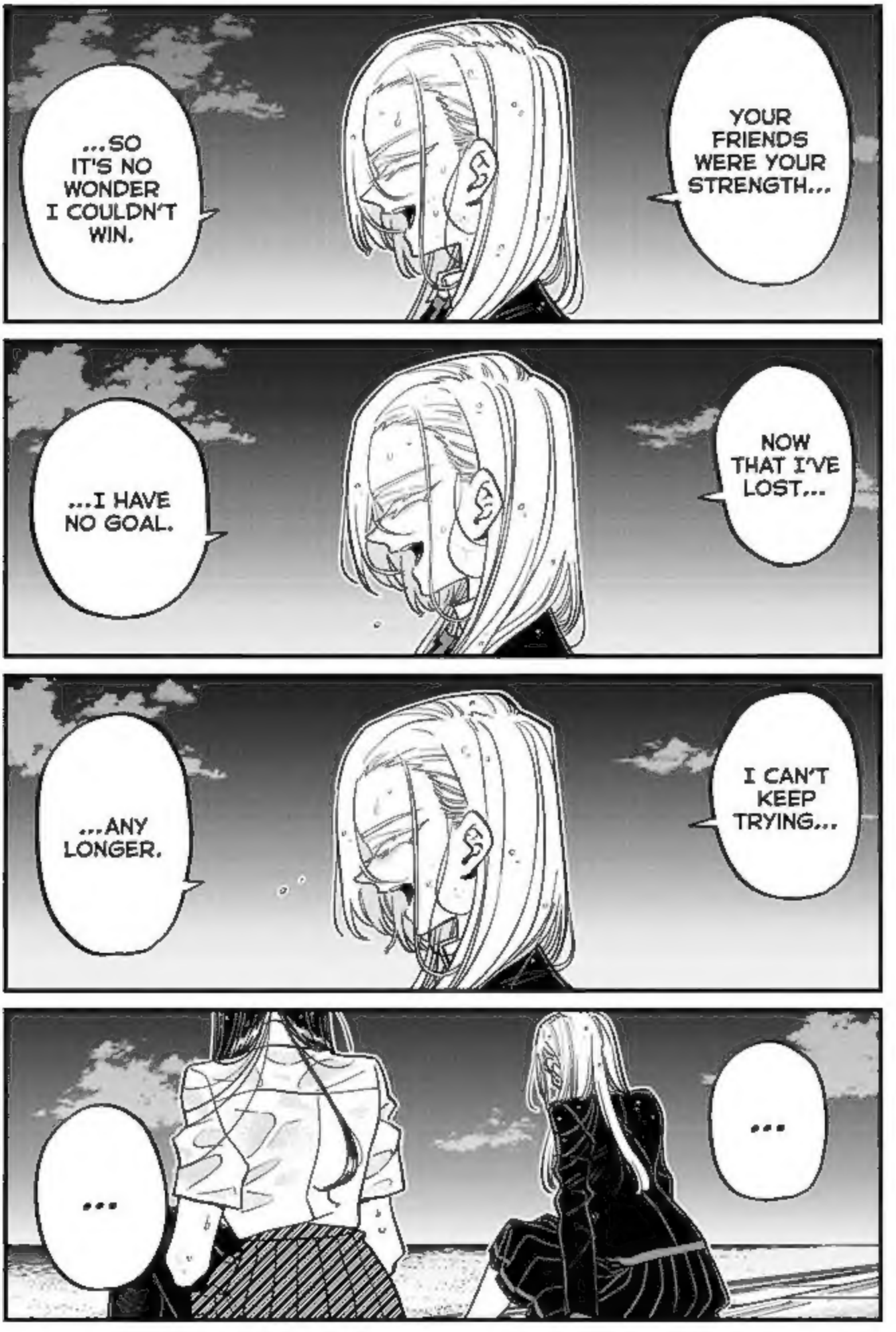
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
!
ペラペラペラ
BLAH BLAH BLAH
WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME? WHY? TO MAKE ME ADMIT DEFEAT? TO LAUGH AT ME?
GO AHEAD. YOU WON. I'M BOWING OUT. HAPPY NOW?
ペラペラペラ
BLAH BLAH BLAH
!
!!
?
...
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, THEN SAY IT!
!
...

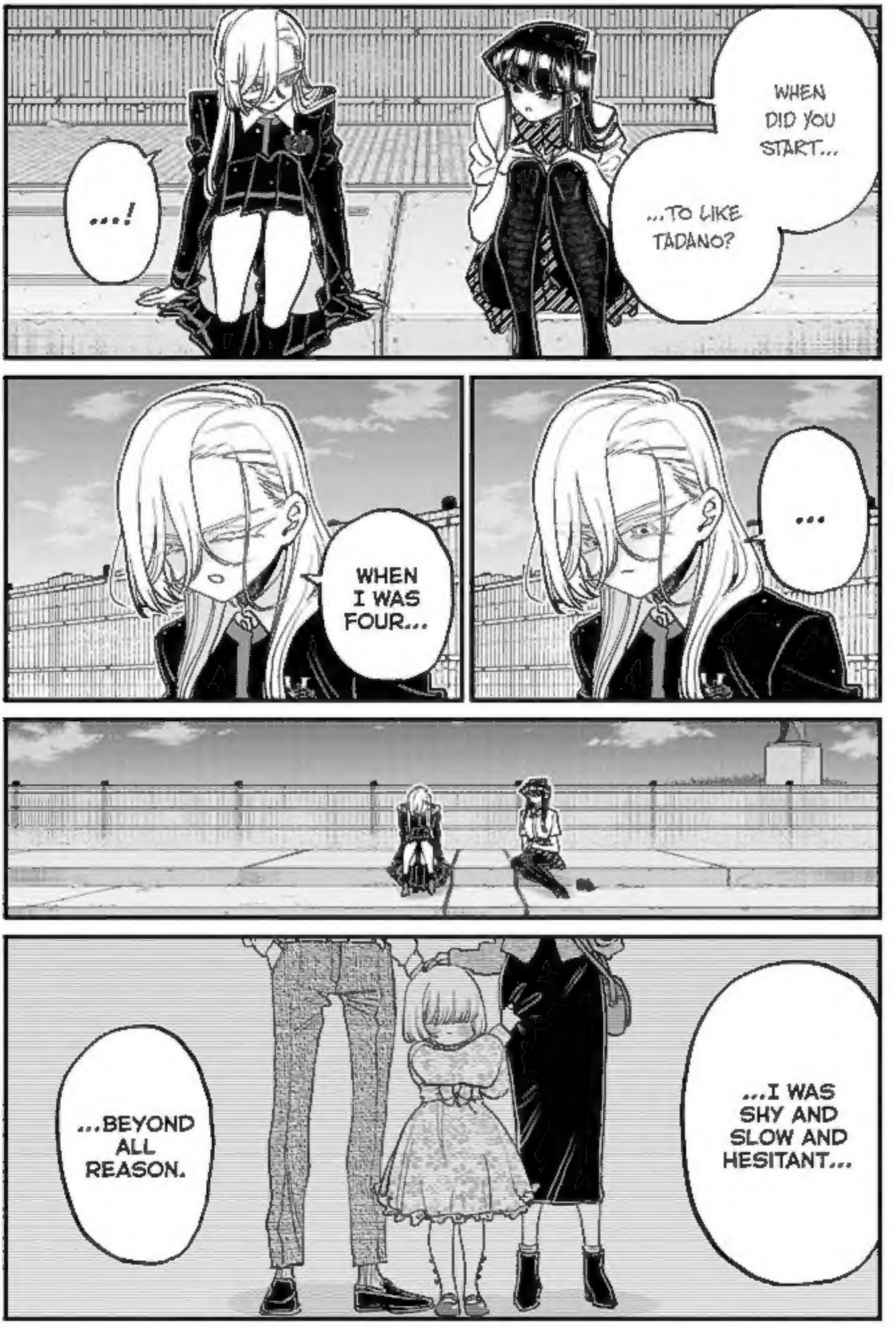
IT WAS A RESULT...
I DON'T FEEL LIKE I WON.
WHAT JUST HAPPENED
?!
TCH...
TCH...
...MY FRIENDS.
!!
WE DON'T USUALLY CALL THEM THAT...
...BUT IT WAS IN THE TEXTBOOK.
SWP
...
FROM...
...OF RELYING ON HELP...
...TALK ABOUT THAT.
...SO WE COULD...
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU...
THIS LATE? YOU SHOULD HAVE GONE HOME.
...


YES, I KNOW.
ARE YOU CRAZY?
A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT— LET ALONE A FEMALE ONE— SHOULDN'T BE OUT THIS LATE.
WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENED?
THE SAME...
...IS TRUE...
...FOR YOU.
...
GOOD POINT.

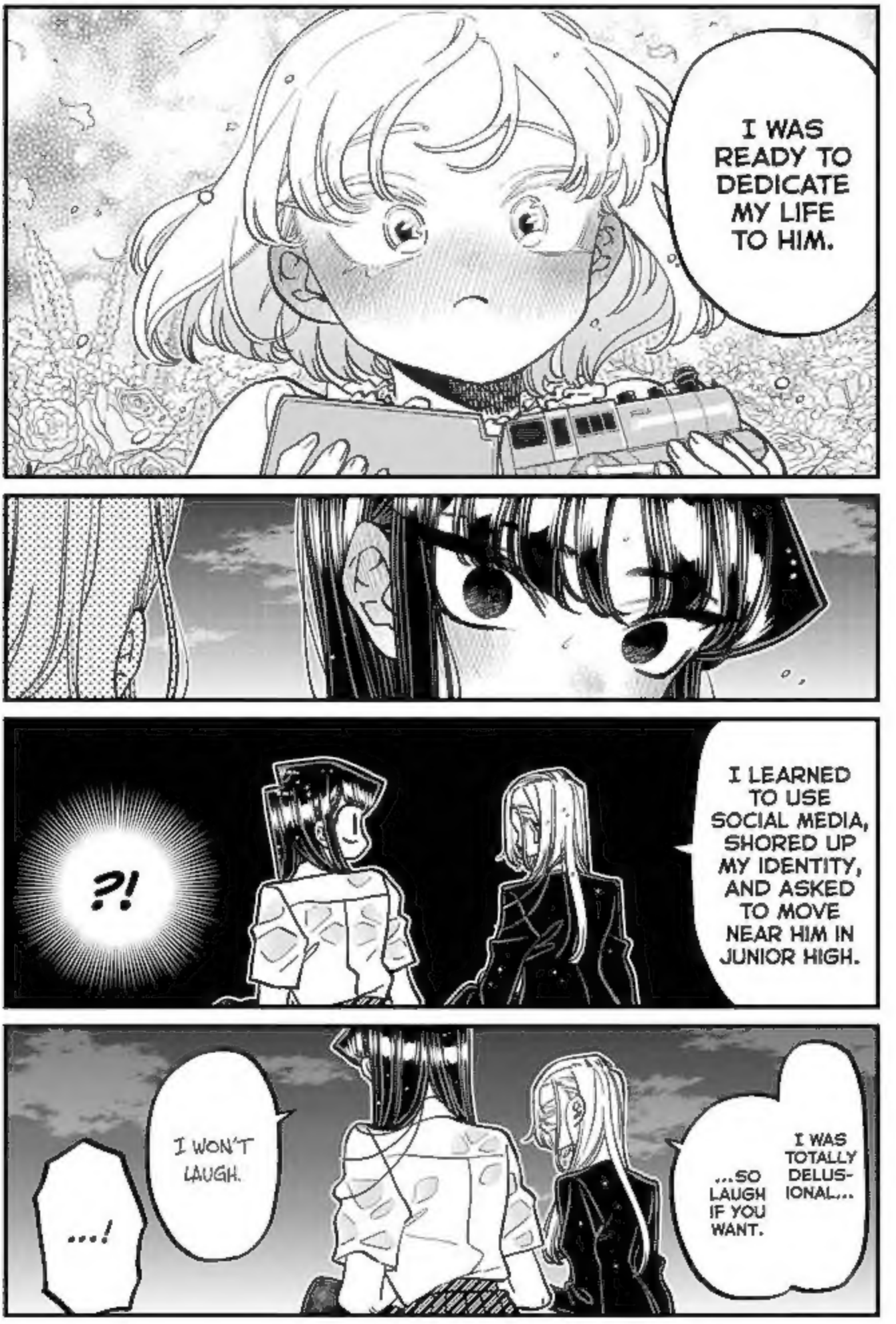

!
...I RATED YOU "BAD," WHICH IS THE WORST RATING I HAVE IN MY FIVE-POINT SYSTEM.
THE FIRST TIME WE MET...
Doesn't really under-stand
...?
??
Bad
MY RATINGS WERE BASED ON HOW MUCH DATING THEM WOULD HELP HIM GROW.
I WANTED TADANO TO GET EXPERIENCE WITH GIRLS.
...!
"BAD" MEANS SHE'D HAVE A BAD INFLUENCE...
...OR THAT I'D BE UNABLE TO BEAT HER.


EVEN WORSE, YOU WERE ALREADY DATING HIM.
WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, I REALIZED I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO BEAT YOU.
I'M A GOOD JUDGE OF PEOPLE...
...BUT I PANICKED.
...WAS STUPID.
CHAL-LENGING YOU TO BEACH FLAG FOR TADANO...
HEH... WHAT WAS I THINKING?
...AND THAT GAVE ME HOPE.
...I BEAT YOU...
BUT EVEN THOUGH IT WAS CHILDISH...
BUT THEN I LOST.
YUSHUSHIN


YOUR FRIENDS WERE YOUR STRENGTH...
...SO IT'S NO WONDER I COULDN'T WIN.
NOW THAT I'VE LOST...
...I HAVE NO GOAL.
I CAN'T KEEP TRYING...
...ANY LONGER.
...
...


...!
WHEN DID YOU START...
...TO LIKE TADANO?
WHEN I WAS FOUR...
...
...BEYOND ALL REASON.
...I WAS SHY AND SLOW AND HESITANT...

MY PARENTS TOOK ME TO A PLAY SPACE FOR KIDS.
THAT'S WHERE WE MET.
SHUN
SLAMM
WHAM
WAAAAH!
AH HA HA!
HE LENT ME A TOY.
AND THAT'S...
...ALL IT TOOK.


I WAS READY TO DEDICATE MY LIFE TO HIM.
?!
I LEARNED TO USE SOCIAL MEDIA, SHORED UP MY IDENTITY, AND ASKED TO MOVE NEAR HIM IN JUNIOR HIGH.
...!
I WON'T LAUGH.
...SO LAUGH IF YOU WANT.
I WAS TOTALLY DELUSIONAL...

...WHAT WAS EASY FOR OTHER PEOPLE...
YOU WORRIED ABOUT YOUR INABILITY TO DO...
...BUT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO YOU...
Then I'll be your first friend and help you make 99 more.
...AND HE HELPED YOU. THAT MAY NOT MEAN MUCH TO SOME...
...SO I WOULD NEVER LAUGH.

To be continued!